

Falls of the James Scenic River Advisory Committee

Draft Minutes for August 10, 2006

Attendees:

Committee Members:

Chairman Ralph Hambrick, Sue Cecil, Jim Rogers, Greg Velzy, Jonathan Young and John Zeugner.

Others:

Lisa Ochsenhirt (City Attorney's Office), Bob Steidel (DPU) and Kathy W. Jones (City Attorney's Office).

The meeting convened with a unanimous approval of the minutes.

Chairman Ralph Hambrick briefed the group on the status of the proposed conservation easement for the James River Park. Hambrick advised that the paper providing for an easement should be before City Council soon.

Hambrick reported on the status of the Mayo Island billboard advising of an upcoming court date. The City filed an injunction against the owner of the billboard.

Mr. Jonathan Young alerted the group of ongoing deliberations with the City's Department of Park's and Recreations pertinent to securing a location for display of a canal freighter boat. Mr. Jim Rogers recommended the consideration of a side by side construction project wherein volunteers would recreate the canal boat.

Mr. John Zeugner delivered a presentation regarding an ongoing view shed study and solicited feedback from the group. Zeugner disseminated materials wherein a number of prominent view shed corridors were identified.

Mr. Jim Rogers briefed the Committee on developments relative to the Pump House. Rogers informed the group that the absence of a consensus for a plan has stymied efforts to move forward. Further, the lease between the City of Richmond and the Historic Richmond Foundation expires this year and is unlikely to be renewed. However, Rogers communicated recent efforts to solicit VCU support along with an unsolicited proposal from a Britain firm. Finally, Rogers advised of continuing problems at the Pump House including illegal activities.

Chairman Hambrick circulated a letter from Richmond Raft Company wherein Mr. Buzz Kraft defended his position relative to the Company's lawsuit against the City. The Committee engaged in discussion regarding both the letter and the lawsuit.

The Committee adjourned at 1:40.